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AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.116 EXPEDITED PROCEDURE –

EXAMINING GROUP 2136

Mail Stop AF

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PATENT

Attorney Docket No.: 16869P-011500US

Client Ref. No.: 349901489US1

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By:_

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Kunihiko Miyazaki et al.

Application No.: 09/693,713

Filed: October 19, 2000

For: DIGITAL SIGNING METHOD

Customer No.: 20350

Confirmation No. 7398

Examiner:

Brandon S. Hoffman

Technology Center/Art Unit: 2136

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.116 EXPEDITED PROCEDURE EXAMINING

GROUP 2136

Mail Stop AF

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed January 4, 2005 on the above-referenced application, please enter the following amendments and remarks:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 9 of this paper.